MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of the institution of Lokpal to inquire into allegations corruption against public functionaries and for matters connected therewith."

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Sir, I have a point of order. My point of order is that this is another very important Bill that this House was to have. Ordinarily even by the rules the Bill ought to have been circulated to the Members before its introduction. We would waive all that considering the importance of the Bill provided the Government apologise and you censure the Government for this failure ...(*Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Has the Bill not been circulated ?

...(*Interruptions)*

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahabad) : We must have 48 hours' time to look into it. It is a very important Bill and we must have time look into it. ...(*Interruptions)* It is not an ordinary Bill...(*Interruptions)*

[Translation]

You look to us. Take the House into confidence, how can it be ?

The Bill cannot be introduced in this way.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I do share the feeling of some of the hon. Members. Important issues before the nation and important programmes before the country should not be done in hurry. It is not a good trend. Members are here and they have expressed their opinion. The Bills of this nature or even the present Eighty-first Constitution (Amendment) Bill, as far as possible, we should do as per the procedure after giving proper thought and after a serious debate. It is not good for the country to rush things. Therefore, I would request the Government, in future, to do things in a cool and calm manner according to the procedure. Let us keep this thing in mind.

The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of the institution of Lokpal to inquire into allegations of corruption against public functionaries and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAM : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to raise an objection. We wanted division but you did not allow it and they will go on doing like this. They are in a haste, we are not. We want to study all the aspects. The Bill is circulated in the morning, it reaches us at 9.30 hours. We have not been able to study it so far ...(*Interruptions)* You would have read it, you might have rceived it yesterday. You belong to treasury benches. You people must have received it earlier. We received it only this morning. I am not joking.

[English]

I cannot allow this acstatic to go and to play with the House in this fashion. There are limits to everything. If they are ignorant of the rules, they must learn the rules. They cannot just come before the House and say, 'We did not know the rules.'

[Translation]

It is not the first time that we are discussing this Lokpal Bill in this House. We have been discussing it for a long time. Why are they after them. I received it in an envelope this morning and I could not go through its contents. That is why I have said no. We are not opposed to the Bill. We are opposed to the fashion in which they have brought this Bill. It has become a habit with the Prime Minister. He will make announcement outside this House that he is doing this or that and later on say that he is not going to do this. He must speak after due consideration. He must maintain the dignity of the Office he is holding.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Fernandes, after the Chair had made observation, I think, we should proceed now.

1414 hrs.

[English]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need to improve the functioning of telecommunication systems in Madhya Pradesh particularly in rural areas

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH (Vidisha) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the telecommunication system has come to a stand still throughout the country particularly in rural areas of Madhya Pradesh. The telephone exchanges remain out of order and the telephones do not work for months together. The telecommunication department has no time bound programme to set these phones right. The tower telephones have remained dead from the day they were installed in Raisen, Vidisha, Bihar and other districts of Madhya Pradesh and no efforts have been made to set them right even after

registering repeated complaints. Hundreds of subscribers have booked their telephone connections two years ago in several towns including Lakui, Chakaldi etc. of Madhya Pradesh but telephone connections have not been released so far.

I would request the Central Government to strengthen the Communication system in Madhya Pradesh particularly in rural areas.

[English]

(ii) Need to shift Sugar Mill in Bareilly to its new site at village Saidpur (Bareilly)

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : A decision had been taken in 1988 for the shifting and augmentation of production capacity to 2500 tonne of the Nekupar (Bareilly) based Sugar factory of the U.P. Government Sugar Mills Corporation to village Saidpur (Vithri Thenpur development block), Bareilly for which land had been acquired in Bareilly but no action has been taken so far to shift the said Sugar mill even after the lapse of such a long time. This is affecting the farmers of the area. This mill has been running in loss continuously and the State government is also incurring annual recurring loss worth crores of rupees. This loss can be checked and problems of canegrowers can be resolved only by immediate shifting of this Mill. I had given a suggestion that if it is not possible for the State Government to shift and run this mill, it can handover it to the private sector and some industrialists are ready to set up this mill in the private sector at the selected site (for which land has already been acquired).

I therefore request the State Government to issue appropriate directions for setting up this sugar mill at the proposed new site.

[English]

(iii) Need to set up a F.M. Radio Station and Metro Channel Transmitter at Alleppey, Kerala

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN (Alleppey) : Sir, the high power transmitter of Akashvani, located at Alleppey serves almost the entire region of Kerala. It is linked to the Akashvani's capital station at Thiruvananthapuram. The programme originated at the capital station at Thiruvanathapuram is taken to Alleppey through Microwave and Satellite links and broadcast over this high power station for wide coverage.

The transmitter at Alleppey is 25 years old and has become obsolete. It is being replaced by a modern transmitter system having double the power of the existing transmitter. Even after this rejuvenation process Alleppey will continue to be a relay station with no programme originating studios.

To meet this long felt need of the people, setting up of a local Radio Station most preferably an F.M. with the capability to produce and broadcast programme at Alleppey is highly necessary. There is enough talent available in and around Alleppey.

The T.V. reception at Alleppey is not satisfactory. It depends on the HPT at Cochin which is about 70 kilometres away. Viewers have to put up their antenna on high poles and have thus expensive boosters to get satisfactory reception. The recently started Metro Channel is not at all visible in the T.V. set at Alleppey. There is a popular demand for a metro channel transmitter at Alleppey. The capital outlay and infrastructure required for the metro being much less, it could be sanctioned early.

(iv) Need for Early Construction of Rourkela-Bimlagarh-Talchar Railway Link Line of Orissa

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO (Sundergarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government through you regarding construction of Rourkela-Bimlagarh-Talchar railway link line of Orissa. The people of Orissa have been demanding for the construction of this railway link line for the past 30 years. The distance between coastal and western Orissa will become shorter if this link line is constructed. It will provide direct rail connection between the coastal Orissa and the hinter land of Western Orissa, particularly between the State Capital, Bhubaneswar, and the Steel City, Rourkela. Since the survey work on this line has been completed a long time ago, I would request the Government through you to consider construction of this line during 1996-97 financial year.

(v) Need to widen National Highway No. 39 between Barauni and Purnia in Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI ANIL KUMAR YADAV (Khagaria) : There is need to widen and strengthen the Barauni-Purnia Section of National Highway No. 39 because this road has been badly damaged by severe floods, uninterrupted rains and increasing road traffic.

The Central Government is therefore requested to take immediate steps for widening of Barauni-Purnia Section of National Highway No. 39.

[English]

(vi) Need to Open Tetulia Corridor to Connect Dinajpur with Jalpaiguri, West Bengal

PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri) : I like to draw the attention of the Government to the legitimate demand of the people of North Bengal and the adjacent region to open Tetulia Corridor in order to have a short cut road *via* Bangladesh. The distance of Chopra in the district of Dinajpur from Jalpaiguri *via* Siliguri is about 110 KM